

## Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-14

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TO AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES IMMEDIATE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AR, PPDC

SUBJECT: VIDELA - CARTER LETTER

- - -

1. DEPARTMENT HAS RECEIVED FOLLOWING COPY OF LETTER SENT  
FROM PRESIDENT VIDELA TO PRESIDENT CARTER DATED MAY 22.

"DEAR MR. PRESIDENT:

IT IS WITH GREAT PLEASURE THAT I TAKE UP ONCE AGAIN MY  
EPISTOLARY CONTACT WITH YOU INITIATED AT THE TIME OF OUR  
MEETING IN SEPTEMBER LAST YEAR, AIMED TOWARDS THE  
TRANSCENDENTAL MATTERS DEALT WITH ON THAT OCCASION.

I BELIEVE THAT THIS MEANS OF DIRECT COMMUNICATION, BASED  
ON RECIPROCAL UNDERSTANDING, SOLIDARITY AND REALISM, WILL  
BE BENEFICIAL TO THE RELATIONS BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES.

IN THE FIRST PLACE, I WISH TO EXPRESS TO YOU THAT AFTER  
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THE NECESSARY STUDIES AND CONSIDERATIONS, MY GOVERNMENT  
HAS DECIDED THAT THE ARGENTINE REPUBLIC WILL ADHERE TO  
THE TLATELOLCO TREATY. THE CORRESPONDING OFFICIAL  
ANNOUNCEMENT WILL BE MADE DURING THE NEXT UNITED NATIONS  
CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT.

THIS ACT, OF SINGULAR IMPORTANCE, DOES NO MORE THAN

CONFIRM OUR PERMANENT POLICY ON THE SUBJECT OF NUCLEAR ENERGY, THE BASIC OUTLINES OF WHICH I HAD THE OCCASION OF EXPRESSING TO YOU DURING OUR MEETING.

IT NOW TAKES ON GREATER RELEVANCE AS IT RELATES TO THE POLICY THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES HAS DEVELOPED ON THE SUBJECT OF DISARMAMENT AND OFFERS, WITHOUT DOUBT, A CLEAR TESTIMONY OF THE COMMON VOCATION OF OUR TWO NATIONS IN FAVOR OF A JUST AND MORE STABLE WORLD ORDER.

THIS NOBLE ASPIRATION IS NOT ONLY FULFILLED BY AVOIDING THE PROLIFERATION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS. THERE ARE ALSO OTHER PROBLEMS THAT REQUIRE ADEQUATE ATTENTION AND DECISIONS.

IN THIS RESPECT, ALLOW ME MR. PRESIDENT, TO REFLECT ON TERRORISM AND ITS GRAVE CONSEQUENCES.

UNDER THE PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES AFTER THE MOVING AND TRAGIC MURDER OF DOCTOR ALDO MORO, THE WHOLE WORLD HAS COME TO REALIZE THE RISKS OF THIS AGGRESSION THAT GOES BEYOND PEOPLES AND FRONTIERS.

HOWEVER, SOME TIME AGO WHEN THERE WAS NOT YET A SENSE OF UNIVERSAL ALERT, THE ARGENTINE REPUBLIC SUFFERED THIS SCOURGE AND PRACTICALLY ALONE IN THE WORLD, FACED AND LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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CONQUERED IT AT A PRICE OF ENORMOUS SACRIFICES OF ALL KINDS.

PRECISELY BECAUSE WE HAVE SUFFERED THIS AGGRESSION, WE MEASURE THE MAGNITUDE OF ITS THREAT ON THE DIGNITY AND FREEDOM OF PEOPLES.

I CONSIDER IT NECESSARY TO REFLECT PROFOUNDLY ON THIS ISSUE, WITH THE OBJECT OF FINDING A WAY TO AVOID IN THE FUTURE THIS IRRATIONAL AND DESTRUCTIVE AGGRESSION THAT AFFECTS BY ITSELF AND BECAUSE OF ITS INEVITABLE CONSEQUENCES, THE FULL EFFECT OF HUMAN RIGHTS.

THIS UNFORTUNATE REALITY OF OUR TIMES IS NOT FOREIGN TO OTHER ACTIONS THAT TAKE PLACE, PERHAPS SYNCHRONIZED.

MY GOVERNMENT IS PARTICULARLY CONCERNED WITH THE COURSE OF EVENTS THAT ARE TAKING PLACE IN AFRICA.

WE HAVE CLOSELY FOLLOWED ALL THE EVENTS WHICH ARE OCCURRING IN THAT CONTINENT AND PARTICULARLY SO AFTER

YOUR MESSAGE GIVEN FROM THOSE LANDS.

THE ARGENTINE REPUBLIC, A PERMANENT ALLY OF WESTERN  
VALUES, IS AWARE OF THE RISK THAT THIS MAY POSE TO LATIN  
AMERICA, BECAUSE OF ITS GEOGRAPHICAL POSITION, THE  
STRENGTHENING OF AFRICA AS A LAUNCHING  
PLATFORM FOR NEW OFFENSIVES THAT THREATEN A WAY OF LIFE  
THAT WE MUST PRESERVE.

THE GEOPOLITICAL SINGULARITY OF BOTH CONTINENTS, AFRICA  
AND AMERICA, MAKES IT IMPERATIVE, ACCORDING TO OUR  
JUDGEMENT, TO JOIN EFFORTS AND COORDINATE ACTIONS, IN ALL  
ORDERS, TO AVOID THIS THREAT. IN THIS RESPECT WE OFFER  
OUR ASSISTANCE TO HELP FIND ADEQUATE SOLUTIONS.  
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FINALLY, MR. PRESIDENT, I WISH TO REMIND YOU THAT,  
ALTHOUGH IT MAY SOUND OBVIOUS, ARGENTINA AND THE UNITED  
STATES WILL ALWAYS TREAD THE SAME PATH IN DEFENSE OF THE  
PRINCIPLES AND VALUES OF OUR PEOPLES. SIGN:J. R. VIDELA" CHRISTOPHER

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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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**Concepts:** TEXT, DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
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**Draft Date:** 02 jun 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
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**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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